

Message Text

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ORIGIN DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13
STR-05 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01
CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00
EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02 DOE-11 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01
INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01
OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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DRAFTED BY D/LOS:RSKATZ:JM
APPROVED BY S/AR:ELRICHARDSON
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 002694

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, EMIN, GW

SUBJECT: REPLY TO QUESTIONS IN BONN 21289

REF: BONN 21289

1. EMBASSY MAY PROVIDE INFORMATION IN PARAS 2-4 AND 6-7

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TO MINISTRY OF ECONOMICS OFFICIALS.

2. CONGRESSMAN BREAUX AND, PERHAPS, OTHER CONGRESSMEN
INTERESTED IN SEABED MINING ARE NOW THINKING OF VISITING
THEIR OPPOSITE NUMBERS IN THE GERMAN BUNDESTAG EN ROUTE
TO SEVENTH SESSION OF LOS CONFERENCE IN GENEVA IN THE
SPRING. AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, PLANNING IS NOT YET FIRM.

3. ACCORDING TO WAYNE SMITH, AT RECENT MEETING BETWEEN SEVERAL U.S. CONGRESSMEN AND JAPANESE DIET MEMBERS, LATTER EXPRESSED GREAT INTEREST IN U.S. LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY ON DEEP SEABEDS AND STATED THAT THEY WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE AMONG THE FIRST TO ENACT LEGISLATION. RECENT CONTACTS BETWEEN U.S. AND JAPANESE LOS DELEGATIONS HAVE BEEN CHARACTERIZED BY COOPERATION AND BY SIMILAR PERCEPTIONS OF SEABED MINING ISSUES.

4. OUR CURRENT THINKING ON JOINT-VENTURE SYSTEM IS THAT, ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE IN PRINCIPLE, NEGOTIATION ON IT AT THIS TIME WOULD MUDDY THE WATERS. FOR THE PRESENT, WE INTEND TO CONCENTRATE OUR EFFORTS ON ELABORATING A GENUINELY PARALLEL SYSTEM THAT ASSURES ACCESS TO PRIVATE MINERS ON REASONABLE TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

5. FYI: DEPARTMENT IS POUCHING COPY OF DRAFT LEGISLATION PREPARED BY MINISTRY OF ECONOMICS (APPARENTLY WITH HELP OF GERMAN INDUSTRY) AND GIVEN TO US RECENTLY IN WASHINGTON. WE UNDERSTAND THAT DRAFT IS STILL MATTER OF SOME INTER-MINISTERIAL CONTROVERSY IN BONN, PRINCIPALLY WITH RESPECT TO ITS INCLUSION OF INVESTMENT GUARANTEES AGAINST LOSS OCCASIONED AS A RESULT OF AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT. WHILE DRAFT IS WORKING ITS WAY
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TOWARD RESOLUTION AT SENIOR LEVELS, A COPY HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN GIVEN TO PARLIAMENTARIANS ON AN INFORMAL BASIS BY MINISTRY OF ECONOMICS.

6. EMBASSY SHOULD BE AWARE THAT MEMBERS OF BUNDESTAG NARJES AND BLUMENFELD ARE IN WASHINGTON AND WILL BE MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON ON JANUARY 9.

7. DEPARTMENT IS ALSO POUCHING MINUTES OF INFORMAL EARLY DECEMBER MEETING WITH NARJES AND BLUMENFELD. CHRISTOPHER

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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